

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently amended) An optical waveguide device, comprising,
    - at least one laser diode; and
      - at least one highly amorphous film-based high refractive index contrast slab waveguide coupled to receive light from the at least one laser diode,
      - wherein the slab waveguide is deposited by biased pulsed DC plasma vapor deposition.
  2. (Canceled)
  3. (Original) The optical waveguide device of claim 1, wherein the slab waveguide is highly optically transparent.
  4. (Original) The optical waveguide device of claim 1, wherein the slab waveguide has a high surface smoothness.
  5. (Original) The optical waveguide device of claim 1, wherein the high-refractive index contrast slab waveguide includes a lens duct.
  6. (Original) The optical waveguide device of claim 1, wherein the at least one laser diode comprises a diode array.
  7. (Original) The optical waveguide device of claim 1, wherein the high refractive index contrast slab waveguide includes a high refractive index active waveguide and an intermediate refractive index passive cladding.
  8. (Original) The optical waveguide device of claim 7, wherein the high refractive index contrast slab waveguide is folded in the plane of the slab.